

U.S. Department of Justice
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PRESS RELEASE

May 12, 2004

PEDIATRICIAN CHARGED WITH RECEIVING AND POSSESSING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

RE: UNITED STATES v. JULIUS GOEPP

Michael A. Battle, the United States Attorney for the Western District of New York, announced that Doctor Julius Goepp, age 46, of 954 Boughton Hill Road, Mendon, New York, was present at an initial appearance today in front of United States Magistrate Judge Jonathan W. Feldman in connection with a criminal complaint filed on May 11, 2004, charging Goepp with (a) receiving child pornography in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 2252(a)(2), which carries a mandatory minimum of imprisonment of 5 years with a maximum term of imprisonment of 20 years, a \$250,000 fine, or both, and (b) possessing child pornography in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 2252(a)(4)(B), which charges a maximum term of imprisonment of 10 years, a \$250,000 fine, or both.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Richard A. Resnick, who is handling the case, stated that on March 8, 2004, a search warrant was executed on the Julius Goepp's home at 958 Boughton Hill Road, Mendon, New York. During the execution of the search warrant, four computers were seized. Computer forensic examinations were conducted by a Department of Homeland Security, Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement ("ICE") Computer Forensic Agent on all four computers. Two of the computers contained over 100 images of children. Such images ranged from depictions of naked children, to depictions of prepubescent children engaging in sexually explicit conduct.

The investigation of Julius Goepp began after ICE forensic specialists learned that a third-party billing company once served as the billing company for certain Internet web sites that contained and distributed child pornography. Federal agents, acting undercover, subscribed to some of those web sites, for which the subscriptions were billed through the third-party billing company. The investigation revealed through credit card records that Julius Goepp did pay for, and subscribe to a website later confirmed to contain child pornography.

The charges in this case were the culmination of an investigation by the Department of Homeland Security, Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement under the direction of Peter Smith, Special Agent in Charge through Operation Predator.

Operation Predator was unveiled last July by Department of Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge. It is a comprehensive initiative designed to protect children from pornographers, child prostitution rings, Internet predators, alien smugglers, human traffickers, and other predatory criminals. ICE is able to use once-fragmented investigative and intelligence resources in a united campaign against child predators. Since the initiative was launched, ICE has arrested over 2,300 child predators and sex offenders throughout the nation.

It should be noted that the fact that a defendant has been charged with a crime . . . is merely an accusation and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

A preliminary hearing is scheduled for July 30, 2004 in front of Magistrate Judge Feldman.

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